

III.—*The White-toothed Shrew of Palestine.*

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CAPT. G. C. SHORTRIDGE has contributed to the British Museum a couple of specimens of a white-toothed shrew obtained by him during the Palestine campaign.

It appears to represent a new subspecies of *Crocidura russula*, and may be called

*Crocidura russula judaica*, subsp. n.

Like the large Central European *C. russula russula*, but colour paler and greyer.

Fur of back about 4.2 mm. in length; very few longer piles present.

General colour of upper surface rather darker than "light drab," much brighter, greyer, and less brown than true *russula*, owing to the reduction of the dark brown tips to the hairs and the greater degree to which the grey of the underfur shows through. Under surface distinctly lighter, the ends of the hairs whitish, with but little drabby suffusion. Tail rather short.

Skull as in *C. r. russula*. Third upper unicuspid rather broader than second.

Dimensions of the type (taken from skin):—

Tail 37 mm.; hind foot 13.

Of a specimen measured in the flesh:—

Head and body 58 mm.; tail 38; hind foot 13; ear 9.5.

Skull (of type): condylo-incisive length 21.2; greatest breadth 9.5; height of crown from basion 4.7; upper tooth-row 9.7.

*Hab.* Palestine. Type from near Jerusalem.

*Type.* Adult male. B.M. no. 18. 8. 1. 3. Collected April 1918, and presented by Capt. G. C. Shortridge. Two specimens.

While the other forms of the *russula* group described from S.W. Asia are darker than the typical European animal, the present one is readily distinguishable from all by being markedly lighter.